

A new subgenus for *Lepus idahoensis*.

The small rabbit described by Merriam in 1891 (North American Fauna No. 5, p. 76) as *Lepus idahoensis* differs too widely from members of any of the recognized subgenera to be associated with them. It may therefore be regarded as the type of a new subgenus *Brachylagus*. The characters are as follows: Skull short and deep, the disproportionately large audital bullæ and small rostrum (diastema shorter than orbit) producing a strikingly immature effect; supraorbital processes shorter than toothrow, their extremities free; posterior prism of second lower pre-molar and first and second lower molars less than half as large as anterior; ears, legs, and tail short, the latter not perfectly formed.—*Gerrit S. Miller, Jr.*

Antennaria solitaria near the District of Columbia.

Although not included in recent works on the flora of the northeastern United States, *Antennaria solitaria* is entitled to a place there. In May, 1899, I found the plant growing in dry, open, deciduous woods near the side of a road a mile or more east of Kensington, Montgomery Co., Maryland, well within the limits commonly assigned to the flora of the District of Columbia. It apparently occupies a small area only, though this year it has spread. The species has been recorded (as *Antennaria plantaginifolia* β . *monocephala*) from the vicinity of Philadelphia, Pa., (Torrey and Gray, Fl. N. Am., II, p. 431) and there is every reason to expect its occurrence throughout the Austral zones of the eastern United States.—*Gerrit S. Miller, Jr.*

Batrachium hederaceum in America.

Up to the present year, so far as I have been able to ascertain, *Batrachium hederaceum* (L.) S. F. Gray, has been credited to the following stations and collectors only: Virginia: Hampton ("Chesapeake City"), Ward, 1877, Vasey, 1878; Norfolk, Ward, 1877, Muir; Dismal Swamp, Chickering, 1877; Virginia Beach, Britton & Small, 1893; Newfoundland: Bona Vista Bay, Osborn, 1879; New Harbour, Waghorne, 1889 and 1890; Quiddy Viddy Lake, Robinson & Schrenk, 1894.

The first record by name of station of the introduction of this species from Europe is Dr. Watson's in the sixth edition of Gray's Manual, 1890. The second is Mr. J. M. Macoun's note (Bot. Gaz. 16; 285. 1891) on the plants collected by the Rev. A. C. Waghorne, assigning to them the record of being the first collected in Canada. If Mr. Macoun had access to the specimens distributed by Mr. H. L. Osborn, he did not give them the first Canadian credit because they were distributed under the name *Ranunculus hyperboreus* Pursh.

Dr. Robinson in Gray's Synoptical Flora (Vol. I, Pt. 1, Fasc. 1; 22. 1895) cites Mr. Muir in connection with the station given in the Manual and appends a foot-note naming the above collectors except Messrs.

Ward, Vasey and Britton & Small. From these omissions I infer that their collections were not published or widely distributed.

Professor Ward tells me that when he and Dr. Morong were approaching the "Chesapeake City" station, he remarked that "that is a regular ranunculaceous pool." So it proved, for, besides *B. hederaceum* they collected *Ranunculus pusillus* and two other species.

With these two limited areas for the adopted habitat of this species it was a surprise to Mr. W. M. Pollock and myself, on May 6, 1900, to find specimens bearing flowers and fruit, in a large swamp bordering the Patuxent River at the mouth of its Western Branch, practically at the head of navigation. There were two distinct patches of the plant, one rather badly cut up by the passage of teams over a temporary farm road. The patches were growing in standing water about two inches deep, over a thin deposit of humus upon compact marl.

In Britton & Brown's Illustrated Flora (Vol. II; 84) the season of flowering is given as "June to August." The plants collected by Britton & Small were barely in flower on May 26. Professor Ward's specimens were barely in fruit on May 12. The plants from the new station were in full bloom and ripe fruit. These fruits probably could not have matured from flowers which were in anthesis later than the last week in April. With this collection, then, the range is increased and the known period of blossoming lengthened.

Dr. Britton writes me that the habit of the plant at Virginia Beach has led him to expect it elsewhere along tide-water areas. We shall interestedly await news of other stations.—*E. L. Morris, Dept. of Biology, Washington High Schools.*

Change of name.

Baptisia confusa Pollard and Ball, nom. nov.

B. Texana Pollard and Ball, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 13:133. April 6, 1900.

B. lanceolata texana Holzinger, Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb., 1:286. Oct. 31, 1893. Not *B. Texana* Buckley, Proc. Acad. Sci. Phila., 452. 1862.

Through inadvertence, Mr. Holzinger's variety was elevated to specific rank in ignorance of the fact that the name *Texana* was applied many years ago by Buckley to another species. Our attention has been considerably called to the error by Dr. B. L. Robinson.—*Charles Louis Pollard, Carleton R. Ball.*